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NAVAL WAR COLLEGE
NEWPORT, R. I.

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June 30, 1948

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Central Intelligence Agency
2430 E Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

NAVY DECLASSIFICATION/RELEASE
INSTRUCTIONS ON FILE

Dear [REDACTED]

Please pardon my delay in replying to your letter. I have been on leave.

I believe it would help clarify matters if I stated that it was not anticipated that any documents would be specially prepared for the War College. The wish was to obtain copies of such material on the areas of emphasis as were currently available in the C.I.A.

As a matter of interest, the C.I.A. publications we now hold are the following:

Map, Chart, and Photo Appraisal of the Persian Gulf Area
(Provisional Edition) (M-4), April 1948.
Italy (SR-15), 10 April 1948.
Austria (SR-16), May 1948.
Strategic Intelligence Digest, U.S.S.R.
Vol. I Topographic, Sociological, Political.
Vol. II Economic, Scientific.
Vol. III Armed Forces -- Who's Who, Transportation
and Communications.

Of the above, the Strategic Intelligence Digest, Vols. I to III, is the most useful to us.

I will attempt to answer your questions, following your lettered designations:

- a. The material will be used mainly in connection with preparation of operations problems, but may in certain cases be used as a background for staff studies. The operations problems are continually revised in accordance with the latest intelligence, and thus intelligence as recent as practicable is desired. Ordinarily, evaluations are made of situations that could occur or weapons that could be available a year or more in the future, and statements of problems are made forward-looking accordingly.
- b. In general, exact dimensions are not mandatory, but details on the whole are found to be useful. Details not required by Strategy and Tactics students frequently are desired by amphibious problem solvers or by the Logistics Class. In the case of an airfield, knowledge that one of a certain class exists ordinarily suffices.

Mr. Borel

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- c. As a rule, bibliographies or references to publications not held or readily obtainable by us are of slight value.
- d. With respect to procuring materials from outside sources for our use, I would say that we have close liaison with O.N.I., but receive little or nothing from State, Army, or Air. Yes, we do have copies of the British Geographical Handbook Series.
- e. One copy of any collected data would be gratefully received. We could use as many as five copies whenever no reproduction is required.
- f. Please take longer than August 1st in the interest of more complete materials.

In answer to your "P.S.", we desire data of secret or lesser classification, but prefer nothing Top Secret.

There is one special study in which we are particularly interested. It falls under the following subject: Communication aspects of Soviet capabilities to support a major force in the Persian Gulf-Arabian Peninsula area. This refers to both sea, land, and air transport, including motor roads between the U.S.S.R. and Arabia, vehicles, shipping, etc.

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Thank you for your interest. Please remember me to Admiral Hillenkoeter, and inform [REDACTED] that I will write him in the very near future.

Very sincerely,


HAMILTON W. HOWE
Captain, U.S.N.